

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A device ~~[[1]]~~ for guiding a loading floor ~~[[3]] of a motor vehicle~~, the height of which floor can be adjusted manually, ~~the device comprising: and which can be pivoted about~~ a first spindle ~~[[9]]~~, ~~about which the loading floor can pivot, a second spindle, and of a motor vehicle,~~ characterized by lever parts ~~[[7]]~~, which are arranged opposite one another~~[[,]]~~ and can be pivoted about ~~a second~~ the second spindle ~~[[11]]~~ and on which the loading floor ~~[[3]]~~ is pivotably mounted via the first spindle, and wherein in ~~that~~ the loading floor ~~[[3]]~~ can be adjusted between a lower loading floor position and an upper loading floor position by a pivoting movement of the lever parts ~~[[7]]~~.

2. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first and second spindles ~~[[9, 11]]~~ run parallel to one another.

3. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim ~~[[1 or]]~~ 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second spindle ~~[[11]]~~ is arranged in a fixed position with respect to the body shell of the motor vehicle.

4. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein in the upper loading floor position the first spindle ~~[[9]]~~ is arranged above the second spindle ~~[[11]]~~, as seen in the direction of the force of gravity.

5. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein in the upper loading floor position the first spindle ~~[[9]]~~ is arranged in such a way with respect to the second spindle ~~[[11]]~~ that

the resulting forces which are transmitted via the loading floor $[(3)]$ to the lever parts $[(7)]$ are oriented substantially in the direction of the bearing center of the lever parts $[(7)]$.

6. (currently amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein in the lower loading floor position the first spindle $[(9)]$ is arranged below the second spindle $[(11)]$, as seen in the direction of the force of gravity.

7. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein in the lower loading floor position the first spindle $[(9)]$ is arranged in such a way with respect to the second spindle $[(11)]$ that a torque is applied to the lever parts $[(7)]$ by the force of the weight of the loading floor $[(3)]$ acting on them.

8. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the torque is directed in the pivoting direction of the loading floor $[(3)]$ during the adjustment of the ~~latter~~ loading floor from the lower loading floor position into the upper loading floor position.

9. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim $[1, 5 \text{ or}]$ 7, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising a device $[(25)]$ for limiting the pivoting angle $[(\alpha)]$ of the lever parts $[(7)]$.

10. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein for the pivotably movable bearing of the loading floor $[(3)]$ on the lever parts $[(7)]$, there is in each case a bearing journal arranged in a bearing bore.

11. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a rigid bearing spindle is provided instead of the bearing journals for the purpose of reinforcing the loading floor $[(3)]$ or the lever mechanism.

12. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the loading floor $[(3)]$ can be fixed in the lower loading floor position and the upper loading floor position by ~~means of~~ a locking device.

13. (currently amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one of the lever parts $[(7)]$ is subject to a spring force in order to overcome a dead center position of the lever parts $[(7)]$ and/or to displace the lever parts $[(7)]$ into a limit position.

14. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the loading floor $[(3)]$ is supported on one side.

15. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the lever parts $[(7)]$ are designed as rotary disks $[(27)]$ or pivot levers $[(29)]$.

16. (new) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second spindle is arranged in a fixed position with respect to the body shell of the motor vehicle.

17. (new) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein in the lower loading floor position the first spindle is arranged below the second spindle, as seen in the direction of the force of gravity.

18. (new) The device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a device for limiting the pivoting angle of the lever parts.

19. (new) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the lever parts is subject to a spring force in order to overcome a dead center position of the lever parts and/or to displace the lever parts into a limit position.